



Silver&Co.
Sustainability Policy Document
2024

Silver & Co. Sustainability Policy Document

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1.0 Introduction

Silver & Co. are a multi-disciplinary architectural, design and branding practise providing intelligent design to both corporate and private clients across the UK and internationally.

We were founded in 1990 and have specialist experience in a wide range of sectors including Commercial, Residential, Leisure and Retail design. This has given us a deep knowledge and our commitment to deliver the best possible level of sustainability, while delivering the same high standards of creativity and service no matter the type, scale or location of project.

Our key belief is to both listen to our clients' needs and work with them to find inspired, sustainable solutions that meet and exceed their expectations. This is underpinned by a commercial understanding that any given solution needs to work in the marketplace and is backed by excellence of sustainable delivery that ensures that the details are taken care of throughout the life of the project and beyond.

We are all in this together and it is vital that across the planet we continue to make incremental gains in reducing our impact on the planet. Our Sustainability Policy Document brings together the very best of RIBA, British Institute of Interior Designers and Well Building Standards.

Our focus is to provide sustainable and stimulating environments whether in the world of offices, residential, retail or leisure with a view to helping our clients meet their individual sustainable goals and maximise their returns over the short, medium and long terms.

2.00 Our 6 Key Principals

2.01 Working Together

Interiors, Architecture and Branding is a team game. It requires all members of the team to pull together to achieve the best possible solutions, within the agreed parameters. We will always work closely with the full team, listening, contributing and evolving our suggestions and solutions to minimise the impact of our designs on the planet.

2.02 Design for Energy Efficiency

Energy consumption is one of the major contributors to climate change. Buildings are responsible for a large share of the world's greenhouse gasses, caused by energy consumption. As building and environmental designers, we can and will make a big difference in improving energy efficiency in all the places we work. We will focus on reducing the amount of energy required for lighting, heating, running appliances etc with careful specification and insightful solutions in all our projects.

2.03 Design for Low Environmental Impact

In order to maximise sustainability, it is vital that we select materials and products with the lowest possible environmental impact, while ensuring that they are fit for purpose and not requiring frequent replacement. We will look closely at certification, labels and standards for individual products to ensure that this is the case.

2.04 Design for Waste Reduction

Waste has a large impact on greenhouse gasses, and we are committed to reducing the waste from all the project we work on. Recycling, upcycling and repurposing the planets precious resources has an important role in doing so and we will always look to maximise these options whenever and wherever they are practical, available and suitable to our project.

2.05 Design for Longevity and Flexibility

To prevent materials and products getting discarded, we will always consider the lifespan of any element we specify, ensuring the maximum longevity, not only in terms of practical durability but also of design durability. Our designs will never be 'throw away' but will always be practical, hardwearing and timeless. We will always consider flexibility for the future, allowing our designs to change and adapt to suite on-going needs, long into the future. In order to maximise longevity, we will always consider maintenance and cleaning processes involved.

2.06 Design for Healthy Environments

It is vital that we are always aware of the impact of our designs on the health of the users and visitors to our buildings. Our focus will be on ensuring that our designs create a feeling of wellness, across all the senses. These means that we will look carefully at visual, auditory,

nasal and textural impact of our designs for users, whatever their abilities and disabilities. We will always look to use natural materials, augmenting these with living breathing products where possible, maximising the amount of natural light and air into our projects. Consideration of methods of cleaning form an essential element in this.

3.00 Our Guiding Lights

We are lucky enough to be working with inspirational, forward-thinking professionals on all our projects and we will always work closely with them, absorbing their thoughts and actions, while simultaneously advising them of our thoughts and ideas in order to ensure that the best possible solutions are always achieved.

3.01 Our Clients

Increasingly our clients see the needs and benefits of a focused Sustainability Strategy. While they are all aimed at reducing CO2 emissions, they differ in how, what, when and why various elements are important. We will always look and learn from their thoughts and actions and we will make suggestions to them, many from other clients, as to how best to reduce their footprint on the planet.

3.02 Government, Local Authorities and other Statutory Bodies

All these important bodies are rapidly updating and improving their requirements and it is our job to contribute to the effectiveness of the solutions we choose. We will work closely with them, adapting our designs to meet the ever changing needs, advising and suggesting as we do so.

3.03 Consultants

We work with some of the best consultant teams across the country. Like us, they are always adapting and improving their standards, to meet the specific needs of their industry codes. We will always listen, learn and contribute to ensure that the best possible solutions are achieved.

3.04 Institutes and Advisory Panels

We are indebted to the wide range of Institutes and Advisory Panels who continue to work tirelessly to create, improve and refine ways and means of improving sustainability. We particularly focus on those prepared by The Royal Institute of British Architects, The British Institute of Interior Designers and the WELL Building Standard.

3.05 Humanity

We are of course all human and we each, in our own way, contribute to both the problems and solutions to climate change. We will always listen to suggestions, no matter how outlandish as we can and always will learn from others.

4.00 The Future

The future is always unknown, but what we all know, is that we must continue to strive to make improvements to the way we touch the planet, not just in terms of the built environment but also in how and why we use it.

4.01 Flexibility

We will always look to the future and maximise flexibility for it. We can never know what it will be, however, we always know that change is certain and we will aim to build this flexibility into our designs from the very start.

4.02 Liveability

It is not just human being that live on this planet, wildlife of all sorts shares it with us. We will always consider not only the wellbeing of humans but of all creatures and plant life that we share it with.

4.03 Climate Change

We know that we cannot stop this completely, only look at minimise its impact. Probably the future will come to us more quickly than we can imagine, in terms of changing climate and the impact on us all. We will always look to keep up to date and where possible, ahead of the curve in the work we carry out and its impact on us all.

5.00 RIBA Sustainable Outcomes Guide

RIBA have produced this well thought out and practical guide and it forms a key part of our approach to sustainability.



<https://www.architecture.com/-/media/GatherContent/Test-resources-page/Additional-Documents/RIBASustainableOutcomesGuide2019pdf.pdf>

6.00 British Institute of Interior Design

The British Institute of Interior Design have produced this well thought out and practical Sustainability Strategy and it forms a key part of our approach to sustainability.



<https://biid.org.uk/file/88099/download?token=Ob8XGkLe>

7.00 The WELL Building Standards

The Well Being Standard have produced this well thought out and practical Governance Report and it forms a key part of our approach to sustainability.



https://a.storyblok.com/f/52232/x/dd30abf145/well-v2_governance-report.pdf

8.00 Silver & Co

Sustainability starts with us all and in our case, it starts with our studio, where we work.

8.01 Electricity

Here at Silver & Co we were very early adopters of Good Energy for all our energy needs. Good Energy generates and purchases renewable energy and supplies green electricity to businesses and homes throughout the country.

8.02 Recycling

We have also been early into recycling and utilise Suez as our recycling company. They provide a weekly recycling service. With materials all sorted within the UK. Raw materials are separated and sent to reprocessors, where cans, cardboard, paper and plastics are all turned into new materials.

8.03 The Future

We are reviewing not only our recycling service but also our use of paper, with a view to reducing usage and increasing recycling to an even higher level, with Paper Round, who are renown as recycling experts in the field.

9.00 Conclusion

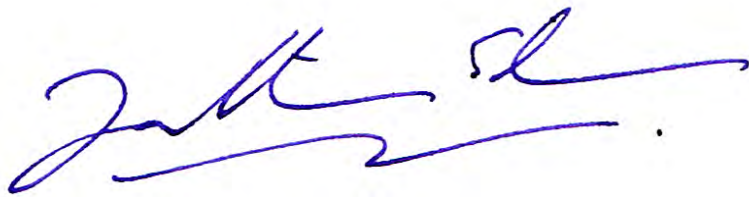
Sustainability isn't a full and complete solution to the issues we all face, rather it is an ongoing opportunity to make all our lives and those of all creatures and life forms on the planet less bad, than they will otherwise be.

It is a team game and we must all work together with not only the best of intents but also with vigour, enthusiasm, flexibility and honesty. None of us know the solutions, these will flex and vary as we face new and different challenges. We must avoid one upmanship, focusing instead on always making incremental improvements, striving to make continuous gains in this fight for a sustainable future.

Document review date: January 2024

Approved by: Jonathan Silver F R S A

Managing Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Silver', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.